

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John POLK

Application No.: 09/973,865

Filed: October 11, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT  
PROCESSING AND CHILD  
SUPPORT DISBURSEMENT  
PROCESSING

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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RESPONSE

In an Office Action dated February 5, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 127-202 under the judicially-created doctrine of double patenting over claims 34-48 of U.S. Patent No. 5,946,669. To obviate these double patenting rejections, Applicant files herewith a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 5,946,669.

Also in the Office Action, the Examiner objected to informalities in the specification. In particular, the Examiner requested that Applicant update the status of the related patent applications listed on the first page of the specification. Applicant notes that the status of the related patent applications has not changed since the above-referenced application was filed. In particular, application serial no. 9/413,862 is still pending, and the patent numbers of the other two related applications were properly

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listed in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the above-referenced application. Therefore, no correction is necessary at this time.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 21, 2003

By:   
David W. Hill  
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